

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-20 IO-10 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 /092 W

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P R 220824Z APR 75

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9613

INFOR AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR KS

SUBJECT: PRESS CARRIES STRONG DEPARTMENT DENIAL OF
"NEW DEFENSE LINE" EXCLUDING KOREA

REF: A SEOUL 2745 B SEOUL 2733 C STATE 091052

1. APRIL 2 EDITIONS OF KOREAN PRESS CARRIED
DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S STRONG DENIAL THAT USG WAS
RE-EXAMINING ITS PACIFIC DEFENSE POSTURE TO
EXCLUDE KOREA. TONGA ILBO, CHUNGANG ILBO, SINA ILBO,
KYONGHYANG SINMUN, AND SEOUL SINMUN ALL REPORTED
PROMINENTLY BOTH STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS'
STATEMENTS THAT REPORTS WERE COMPLETELY FALSE.

2. PRESS ALSO COVERED DEPT SPOKESMAN'S REMINDER
THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S SPEECH TO CONGRESS ON APRIL 10
REAFFIRMED FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF USG/ROKG
RELATIONSHIP.

CHUNGANG ILBO QUOTED "STATE
DEPARTMENT SOURCES" AS EXPRESSING DISPLEASURE OVER
REPORTS CARRIED IN JAPANESE PRESS, ADDING THAT
DEPARTMENT HAD TAKEN "RARE" STEP OF "SUMMONING"

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JAPANESE REPORTERS WHO HAD WRITTEN ARTICLE.
DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID STORY
WAS "UNBELIEVABLE NONSENSE."

3. TONGA ILBO ALSO REPORTED THAT SENATOR SPARKMAN
HAD DENIED STORY AND CONGRESSMAN FRASER WAS QUOTED
IN SAME ARTICLE AS SAYING "IF ROKG IS A DEMOCRATICALLY
ORIENTED GOVERNMENT,I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD
NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM US DEFENSE LINE."

4. GREATLY APPRECIATE TIMELY AND STRONG DEPARTMENT
STATEMENT.
SNEIDER

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